

**Outdoor School** from 1A

so we have worked very hard to bring back Outdoor School to our students in some fashion.”

There are a wide variety of activities available to the students at camp, many of which are impossible to offer in the traditional classroom setting.

“Hands-on learning is an extremely important aspect of learning,” Marohl said. “Many of our students are kinesthetic learners (who learn by doing) and our ODS provides numerous experiences that we simply can’t do at school; such as the boating stations (canoeing and kayaking), archery and fishing.”

The four days students spend at Camp Cleawox allow them not only to get valuable hands-on experience with outdoor equipment and activities, but also gives opportunities for bonding and mentorship between students from different grades and backgrounds.

“About four years ago, we included both fifth- and seventh-grades at camp. They are the cohorts who will be in sixth and eighth grades the following year. We have setup a model in which fifth-grade students are paired with a seventh-grade student,” Marohl said. “Our goal is to provide some aspect of mentorship and for the incoming middle school students to have some familiar faces when they reach middle school. Ideally, the older students can help mentor younger students in middle school.

“This pairs nicely with our WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) program at SMS.”

Obtaining funding for the



PHOTOS BY ETHAN DOUGHERTY AND MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS



**Siuslaw School District’s Outdoor Adventures 2017 at Camp Cleawox featured fifth- and seventh-graders as well as school staff and community volunteers. Students participated in four days of hands-on learning about archery, water activities, wildlife and more.**

Outdoor Adventure Camp has been a challenge, but Wells said they came up with some innovative methods to get the money needed to run the camp.

“Outdoor Adventures runs on about \$14,000. The district helps us out when we fall short on fundraising. Every year the fifth- and seventh-grade teams run fundraisers like dances, candy bar sales and a ‘read and run’ day,” Wells said. “We are

always looking for new sponsors and thank all that have contributed.”

Siuslaw School District depends on mentors and professionals from the community to guide and instruct campers in the activities offered.

This assistance is invaluable to the school administrators that send students to Cleawox.

“Andy and I quickly learned that not all volunteers want to

come into school to read or grade papers, but to teach,” Wells said.

He listed Tom Gray, who received a Level 2 Archery Certificate to lead students, and Jesse Beers, who teaches about Native American topics such as traditional tools and ethnobotany. Beers also displayed the dugout canoe that the Siuslaw Indians use for pilgrimage trips to Portland.

Other community partners this year included Western Lane Ambulance District, U.S. Forest Service, Three Rivers Casino Resort, The Lady Elks of Florence, Florence Community PTA, STEP and the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw.

Wells is optimistic about the future of Outdoor Adventures, simply because of the affinity that residents here have

for the natural world.

“There needs to be those components of learning and outrageous fun that are a huge part of our Northwest recreation culture,” he said. “The more we teach our students to recreate responsibly, the greater the chances of them truly having an opportunity to enjoy life a little more and desire to be great stewards of our forests, lakes and rivers.”

# Baby to Graduate 2017

Congratulations  
GRADUATE

**Abby Watkins**

Siuslaw High School

Born: January 26th, 1999

Parents: Jim and Diane Watkins

Grandparents: Don and Dorothy Briscoe, Bob and Pat Watkins

**Jenicah Ecker**

Siuslaw High School

Born: December 18th, 1998

Parents: Neil and Vanessa Ecker

Grandparents: Stan and Barbara Ecker, Phyllis Beall

**Daysen George Thomas**

Thurston High School

Born: December 18th, 1998

Parents: Gary and Jami Thomas

Grandparents: Nancy Flatley and the late Jim Flatley, the late Daryl Thomas and the late Linda Thomas

**Brandy Dalbeck**

Siuslaw High School

Born: August 31st, 1999

Parents: Joyce and David Dalbeck

Grandparents: Kitty Halverson, Bill and Roberta Dalbeck

**Jonathan Duchscher**

Siuslaw High School

Born: February 23rd, 1999

Parents: Doug and Kim Duchscher

Grandparents: Bill Duchscher, Virginia Silva

**Kyle Rose**

Siuslaw High School

Born: June 10th, 1999

Parents: William and Elizabeth Rose

Grandparents: Mary Mathews, Gary and Sally Rose

**Conner Wheeler**

Siuslaw High School

Born: May 25th, 1999

Parents: Ned Hickson and Alicia Wheeler Hickson

Grandparents: Delma and Lupe Luevano, Susan Weathers, Dale and Lennie Wheeler

**Tyler Packebush**

Mapleton High School

Born: October 23rd, 1998

Parents: Rodney and Teresa Packebush

Grandparents: Duane and Gloria Packebush

**Elise Koby**

Siuslaw High School

Born: October 14th, 1997

Parents: Les and Lori Koby

Grandparents: Frank and Faye Koby

